

## LIBRARY BOARD OF RHODE ISLAND

The regular meeting of the Library Board of Rhode Island was held on  
December 21, 2015  
at the Department of Administration,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Conference Room B,  
One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI 02908

**Members Attending:** John Bucci, Melody Drnach, Annette Feldman, Ed Garcia, Louise Herrington-Bright, Joan Ress Reeves, Rose Ellen Reynolds, Robert Sloan, Thomas Viall

**Members Absent:** Cristina Amedeo, Kenneth Findlay, Rosita Hopper, Phyllis Humphrey, Phyllis Lynch, Alison Davis-Maxell, Monica Nazareth-Dzialo, Doug Norris

**Present from the Office of Library and Information Services (OLIS):** Karen Andrews, Donna DiMichele, Karen Mellor

**Guests:** Eileen Dyer, Interim Director, Providence Community Library, Co-chair, Rhode Island Library Association Legislative Action Committee

### Materials Distributed:

- RI National Public Radio website article dated 02 December 2015 titled *Providence City Archivist Campbell Fired*, <http://ripr.org/post/providence-city-archivist-campbell-fired>
- *Computers in Libraries* magazine article from December 2015 edition titled *All Access: Adult Education and Digital Literacy for Workforce Development in Public Libraries*
- OLIS Strategic Plan 2016: Overview dated 21 December 2015

## I. WELCOME

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:18 p.m.

## II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES from the November 16, 2015, meeting

The meeting minutes were approved with minor changes.

**Moved by:** Ms. Reynolds

**Seconded by:** Ms. Drnach

## III. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

- A. Ms. Alison Davis-Maxell has submitted a letter of resignation from the LBRI to Mr. Viall. Ms. Maxell has taken a position with the Maine State Library and, as a non-resident of Rhode Island, she may no longer serve on the board. Mr. Viall extended his thanks to Ms. Maxell for her service on the board and will draft a thank you letter to Ms. Maxell on behalf of the board.
- B. Due to budgetary concerns, the Redwood Library and Athenaeum has begun charging a \$10.00 fee for admittance to the library. The library will be free to the public the first Sunday of each month. The Redwood Library and Athenaeum is a member of the

Library of Rhode Island (LORI) network and receives interlibrary loan delivery (ILL) service through OLIS.

- C. Ms. Dorothy Frechette of Rhode Island Library Information for Kids (RILINK) sent a letter to Mr. Viall and Ms. Mellor expressing concern over recent adjustments made to the ILL delivery service as it relates to LORI libraries; specifically school libraries. Each year, OLIS completes a delivery count of items delivered to ILL libraries and, because of the results of the delivery count, some former delivery-on-demand (DOD) libraries, primarily school libraries, have been placed on a one-delivery-per-week schedule rather than the prior option to have up to two DOD deliveries per week. The cost of delivery has increased due to the new contract that began with a new vendor in May 2015.

#### **IV. CHIEF OF LIBRARY SERVICES REPORT**

##### **A. Ongoing**

###### **i. State Data Coordinator position**

During the week of 12/12/15, OLIS interviewed a number of candidates for the state data coordinator position. OLIS anticipates conducting second interviews in the next few weeks and hiring an applicant for the position in January 2016.

###### **ii. Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) State Program Report**

Ms. DiMichele and Ms. Mellor are completing the LSTA State data report that is due to the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) on January 29, 2016.

###### **iii. FY2017 Grant-in-Aid**

OLIS is preparing the 2017 schedule for Grant-in-Aid for public libraries for submission to the state Budget Office. Per request, OLIS will prepare the GIA schedule based on level-funding of total grant-in-aid and one based on 25% of the local appropriations and expenditures on public libraries. The Budget Office asks for both sets of numbers each year.

##### **B. State Data Coordinator's Annual Conference**

The State Data Coordinator's annual conference was held in Louisville, Kentucky, from December 8-10. Ms. Mellor attended the conference as the representative for Rhode Island. Once a state data coordinator is hired, the annual report process will be reviewed, revised and updated to both streamline the process and increase the relevancy of data collected.

##### **C. FirstSearch Database**

FirstSearch is an OCLC utility provided to libraries by OLIS to enable them to search the holdings of libraries in the US and around the world. OCLC will decommission the FirstSearch interface, replacing it with the WorldCat Discovery interface. OLIS needs a tool to authenticate users for WorldCat Discovery. Mr. Viall has been instrumental in assisting OLIS with establishing a user authentication tool for WorldCat Discovery.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Legislation**

Ms. Reynolds reported that January 6, 2016, is the beginning of the RI state legislative session.

### **B. Library Construction Reimbursement Regulations Review**

A meeting for the LBRI committee for the revision of the regulations will be scheduled for January 2016.

## **VI. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

### **A. Mr. Garcia**

Mr. Garcia submitted an article from the December 2015 edition of *Computers in Libraries* about the ALL Access grant undertaken by Cranston Public Library and Providence Public Library.

The Genealogical Society sent a letter to Mr. Garcia to express concerns that the Providence Archives would be outsourced for external management due to the dismissal of Archivist Paul Campbell. Ms. DiMichele reported that the Providence Archives are still open and managed by the City of Providence; however, news reports suggest a consultant may be hired as a new archivist for the Providence Archives, rather than a city employee.

## **VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. Library Services Strategic Plan: Environmental Scan**

Ms. Mellor discussed the development of a new OLIS strategic plan in which OLIS would like the LBRI to help develop in 2016. Ms. Mellor recommended a variety of tools to gather data to form the plan. Tools for consideration include surveys, focus groups, hiring an external facilitator to assist in the data gathering process, requesting library and patron input, and publishing a final report on the findings of the data gathered. The investigative and data gathering processes are expected to take six months with an additional six months devoted to development of the plan. Member suggestions included trustee involvement in information discovery, input from non-library users, and the use of focus groups rather than surveys.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Providence League of Women Voters' Study: Revisiting State Assistance to RI Libraries**

The Providence League of Women Voters has released its draft study of the current Rhode Island grant-in-aid formula for libraries. The study provided possible options for realigning the formula to meet the needs of urban libraries. Ms. Mellor attended a meeting hosted by the Providence League of Women Voters to discuss the study; at the meeting, Ms. Mellor was told by the League that it would not be pursuing legislative action on the study at this time.

## **IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **X. FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next LBRI meeting is scheduled for January 11, 2016, from 4:15 – 5:45 p.m. at the Department of Administration, Conference Room B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI, 02908.

Mr. Viall reported that the LBRI should review the LBRI By-laws and that the board is required at the next meeting to vote on new officers for the board.

## **XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

**Moved by:** Ms. Herrington-Bright

**Seconded by:** Mr. Garcia